

**Amendments to the Claims**

The current listing of the claims replaces all previous amendments and listings of the claims.

1. (Original) An outboard motor comprising:

an outer cover;

an engine disposed inside the outer cover and comprising a crankcase, a cylinder block and a cylinder head, which are operatively connected to each other in a horizontal direction in the outer cover;

an intake unit provided for the engine and including a throttle body disposed in a vicinity of the crankcase, and an intake manifold disposed on a side of the engine so as to extend from the throttle body, said intake manifold having a plurality of intake pipes extending towards intake ports formed in the cylinder head to be connected thereto; and

a fuel injector unit disposed in substantially an intermediate portion of the intake manifold.

2. (Original) An outboard motor according to claim 1, wherein said fuel injector unit is placed in a space between a side wall of the engine and the intake manifold.

3. (Original) An outboard motor according to claim 1, further comprising an intake duct connected to an upstream side of an intake passage, said intake duct being disposed on a downstream side of the fuel injector unit, which is placed in a space formed between a side wall of the engine and the intake manifold, and said intake duct is provided with an air inlet, which is placed above a lowermost intake pipe of the intake manifold.

4. (Original) An outboard motor according to claim 3, wherein said air inlet of the intake duct is positioned at a lower end thereof so as to open downward.

5. (Original) An outboard motor according to claim 3, wherein said intake passage is formed so as to communicate with an outside air intake port formed to the outboard motor outer cover.

6. (Original) An outboard motor according to claim 1, further comprising a fuel supply unit disposed on a downstream side of the fuel injector unit in a space formed between a side wall of the engine and the intake manifold.

7. (Original) An outboard motor according to claim 1, wherein said fuel injector unit includes a plurality of fuel injectors provided for the intake pipes, respectively.

8. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor according to claim 7, wherein said fuel injectors are provided for the respective intake pipes at portions between the throttle body and the cylinder head and said fuel injectors are coupled together by ~~means of~~ a delivery pipe.

9. (Original) An outboard motor according to claim 1, wherein said intake manifold has a shape curved along an inner surface of the outboard motor outer cover.

10. (New) An outboard motor comprising:

an outer cover;

an engine disposed inside the outer cover and comprising a crankcase, a cylinder block and a cylinder head, which are operatively connected to each other in the outer cover;

an intake unit provided for the engine and comprising a throttle body disposed in front of the crankcase and an intake manifold disposed on a side of the engine extending from the throttle body, said intake manifold having a plurality of intake pipes extending towards and connecting to intake ports formed in the cylinder head;

a fuel injector unit disposed in substantially an intermediate portion of the intake manifold; and

a fuel supply unit disposed on a downstream side of the fuel injector unit between a side wall of the engine and the intake manifold.